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A CLEAR, BEAUTIFUL DAY. WHAT COULD GENSOKYO'S SHRINE MAIDEN BE DREAMING OF?

第50話 Reimu Hakurei's Miscalculation (Part 1)

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東方鈴奈庵 ～Forbidden Scrollery.

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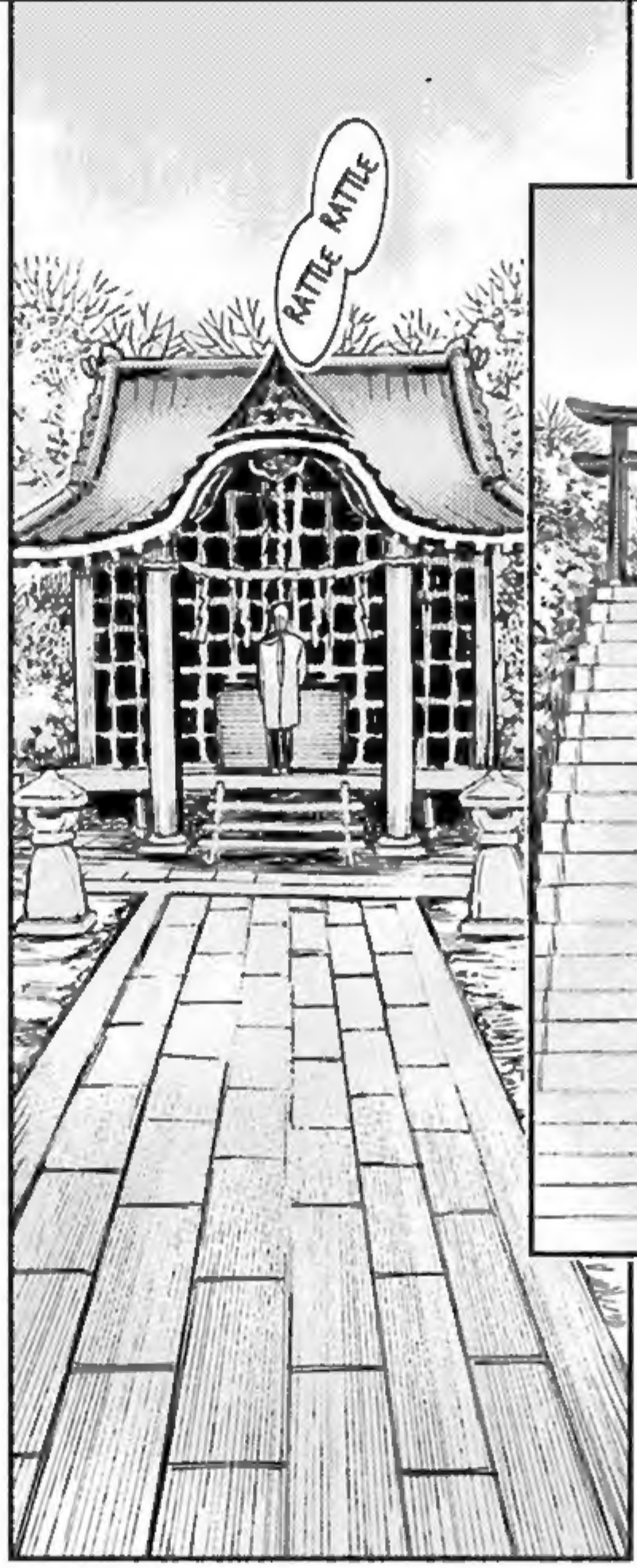

RATTLE RATTLE

CHIRP
CHIRP

RUSTLE

THAT'S FAR ENOUGH!

DID YOU THINK I DIDN'T KNOW?

GOOD-NESS GRACI-OUS,

IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU NOTICED.

博麗霊夢●幻想郷内、博麗神社の巫女。妖怪退治を行っている。・楽園の素敵なシャーマン。

LATELY,

THE DONATION BOX HAS BEEN FILLED WITH LEAVES.

FWOOSH

I FIGURED IT WAS ONE OF YOU TANUKI.

TOOK YOU LONG ENOUGH.

I WAS GETTING WORRIED THAT I'D HAVE TO KEEP GOING UNTIL THE BOX WAS OVERFLOWING WITH LEAVES.

トロ

二ツ岩マミゾウ●幻想郷に居を構える化け狸。＊捕らぬ狸のディスガイザー＊。

HO HO HO!

I'M BUSY ENOUGH AS IT IS RIGHT NOW.

SO WHAT'S WITH THE STUPID PRANK?

BONK

THEN EXTERMINATING YOUKAI IS IN A SHRINE MAIDEN'S JOB DESCRIPTION!

PRANKS ARE IN A TANUKI'S BLOOD.

SMIRK

YOU MEAN WITH KOSUZU?

BY THE WAY,

HAVE YOU MADE ANY PROGRESS WITH THAT?

BUT IT WASN'T US.

YOU MAY HAVE YOUR SUSPICIONS,

FOR THE RECORD,

!!!

I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE JUST DISAPPEARED LIKE THAT. WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED?

SADLY, NO. NOTHING AT ALL.

THAT'S WHY, IN ORDER TO CLEAR OUR NAME, I'M HAVING THE TANUKI LOOK INTO IT TOO.

THOUGHT SO.

NO QUESTION

WELL, YEAH, YOU *ARE* MY TOP SUSPECT.

PEOPLE WITNESSED HER LEAVING TOWN ON HER OWN,

BUT NO ONE KNOWS WHERE SHE MIGHT HAVE BEEN HEADED OUT THERE.

WHETHER BY ACCIDENT OR MALICE,

IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE HER VANISHING WITHOUT A TRACE.

THIS MAY NOT MEAN MUCH COMING FROM A TANUKI,

BUT IT'S LIKE SHE WAS LED ASTRAY BY A FOX.

...

TEMPORARILY CLOSED

IT REALLY WASN'T US.

YES,

休業

ARE YOU SURE?

BECAUSE, TO BE FRANK, THE TENGU ARE LOOKING PRETTY SUSPICIOUS.

WELL, I WAS GETTING CLOSE TO HER, SO I CAN'T BLAME YOU FOR SUSPECTING ME,

BUT WHAT COULD I POSSIBLY HAVE TO GAIN FROM KIDNAPPING HER?

MY PAPER HAD FINALLY BEEN GETTING POPULAR IN THE VILLAGE,

AND THEN MY DISTRIBUTOR UP AND VANISHES, PULLING THE RUG RIGHT OUT FROM UNDER ME.

RUSTLE

YOU THINK I'M JUST GONNA TAKE THE WORD OF A TENGU?

I REALIZE THAT YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE SUSPECTING US.

WHICH IS WHY WE'VE TAKEN THE INITIATIVE TO DO OUR OWN INVESTIGATION AND DISPEL ANY DOUBTS.

射命丸文●幻想郷内でルポライターを名乗り、情報収集を行う。
・強天狗のジャーナリスト。

Missing Person

WE HAVEN'T FOUND A TRACE OF HER.

WE'VE EVEN TRIED USING THE NEWSPAPER TO GATHER INFORMATION, BUT NO LUCK.

UNFOR-TUNATELY THOUGH,

WE'VE BEEN UNABLE TO LOCATE HER, EVEN WITH GENSOKYO'S GREATEST INFORMATION NETWORK.

THERE ARE SOME METHODS THAT WOULD SLIP THROUGH OUR INFORMATION NETWORK, THOUGH...

FIRSTLY,

SHE COULD HAVE RUN AWAY WHILE INTENTION-ALLY COVERING HER TRACKS.

IT WOULD TAKE CAREFUL PLANNING, BUT I CAN'T RULE IT OUT.

SECOND, SHE COULD HAVE BEEN ABDUCTED VIA SUCH OVERWHELM-ING FORCE THAT SHE WAS UNABLE TO PUT UP EVEN THE SLIGHTEST RESISTANCE.

THERE ARE NO TRACES OF A SCUFFLE OR EVEN THE PRESENCE OF YOUAKI ENERGIES, SO IT'S DIFFICULT TO IMAGINE, BUT... IT'S POSSIBLE.

AND WHAT ARE THEY?

HM

FINE, I'LL TELL WHAT I THINK PROBABLY HAPPENED.

SO YOU STILL SUSPECT ME?

Sigh...

OR MAYBE *SOMEONE* IS JUST LYING TO ME.

GLARE

SHE'S NOT IN GEN-SOKYO?!

WHA-

BUT THAT'S... NO WAY!

FOR WHATEVER REASON, SHE'S NO LONGER IN GENSOKYO AT ALL.

THAT'S THE MOST LIKELY EXPLAN-ATION.

SO YOU THINK KOSUZU WAS SPIRITED AWAY?

OF COURSE.

YOU *MUST* BE AWARE OF THE SPIRITING AWAY PHENOMENON, RIGHT? WHERE PEOPLE GO MISSING?

IT WOULD ADD UP...

BUT IF SO, THEN WHERE DOES THAT LEAVE US?

THAT'S MY BEST GUESS.

MOST VICTIMS WHO ARE SPIRITED AWAY,

END UP IN THE OUTSIDE WORLD FOR THE DURATION.

OR SO I'VE PIECED TOGETHER FROM FOLLOW-UP INTERVIEWS.

SO IT'S POSSIBLE THAT SHE'S IN THE OUTSIDE WORLD RIGHT NOW.

THEN NOT JUST ANYONE COULD'VE PULLED IT OFF.

IF THIS WASN'T JUST AN ACCIDENT,

THE OUTSIDE WORLD...

I NOTICED SOMETHING BIG ABOUT THE KOSUZU THING!

PATTER PATTER

HEY! REIMU! YOU HERE?!

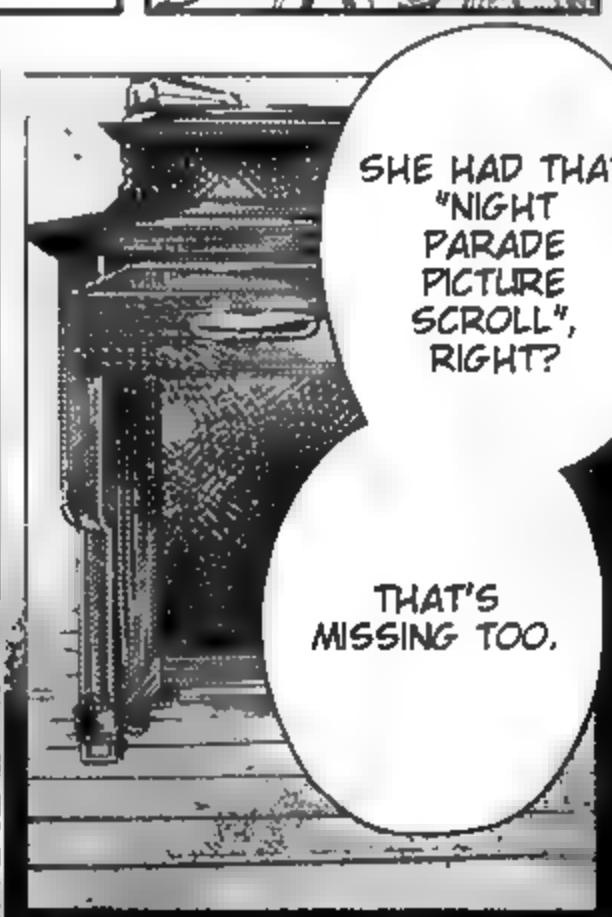
OH, THERE YOU ARE.

SOME-THING... BIG?

霧雨魔理沙●幻想郷にある魔法の森に住んでいる人間の魔法使い。・普通の魔法使い・

Y'SEE,
I WENT AND CHECKED OUT SUZUNAAN,
AND A WHOLE BUNCH OF YOUMA BOOKS ARE MISSING!

REMEM-BER?
FROM THAT TIME ALL THE LITTLE ODDS AND ENDS WERE TURNING INTO TSUKUMOGAMI?
UH HUH.


SHE HAD THAT "NIGHT PARADE PICTURE SCROLL", RIGHT?
THAT'S MISSING TOO.

IS THE SCROLL REALLY THAT DANGEROUS?

DON'T YOU THINK THE CULPRIT COULD'VE BEEN AFTER THAT SCROLL?

IT HAD A DANGEROUS YOUKAI SEALED INSIDE IT, RIGHT? WE'RE TALKING TOP TIER DANGER HERE.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! HAVE YOU FORGOT-TEN?

THAT SCROLL WAS JUST *OOZING* WITH THE AURA OF A CRAZY-DANGEROUS YOUKAI!

IF SOMETHING LIKE FELL INTO THE HANDS OF A YOUKAI, IT COULD DESTROY THE POWER BALANCE OF GENSOKYO!

...WAIT.

YOU'RE...

YOU'RE NOT REIMU!

IT-

IT'S YOU?!

THE ONE WHERE YOUKAI DOMINATE HUMANITY?

GENSOKYO'S CURRENT POWER BALANCE, WAS IT? I WONDER WHAT YOU MEAN.

OR MAYBE,

YOU MEAN THE ONE WHERE THE POOR, IGNORANT HUMAN VILLAGERS ARE THE ONLY ONES TO SUFFER?

本書小説●幻想郷の人里にある貸本屋「鈴奈庵」の娘。・判眠眼のビブロフィリア・

EVERYONE'S WORRIED ABOUT YOU!

WAIT...

WHERE'VE YOU BEEN THESE PAST FEW DAYS?!

KOSUZU! YOU'RE ALRIGHT!

"PRIVATELY PRINTED NIGHT PARADE SCROLL, FINAL CHAPTER SUPPLEMENT"

THAT SCROLL...

IT'S JUST AS ***SHE*** SAID, ISN'T IT?

EVERYONE'S AFTER THIS SCROLL.

WOOM

SO, IN THE END, EVEN REIMU AND MARISA...

WERE JUST SEEKING TO RULE GENSOKYO AS *SUPERHUMANS*.

BUT IF I CAN USE THIS PROPERLY,

I SHOULD BE ABLE TO *RESTORE* BALANCE TO GENSOKYO.

NO!

YOU IDIOT!

YOU CAN'T READ THAT!

IT'S TOO DANGEROUS!

I SCREWED UP.

I CAN'T BELIEVE AN ENEMY POWERFUL ENOUGH TO DEFEAT MARISA SHOWED UP AT THE SHRINE WHILE I WAS OUT.

THIS WHOLE PLACE IS...

COVERED IN A STRANGE AURA.

IT'S PECULIAR.

THIS ISN'T THE AURA OF AN ORDINARY YOUKAI.

HOW SO?

HOW DO I PUT THIS...?

IT'S UNREFINED.

SNIFF

TO PUT IT SIMPLY, YOUKAI AURAS HAVE A CERTAIN SENSE OF FASHION TO THEM.

THIS ONE'S WAY OUT OF TOUCH.

DEEP IN THOUGHT

STALE, HACKNEYED, BEHIND THE TIMES...

TAKES ME BACK, REALLY.

WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO REMINISCE! THIS IS AN EMERGENCY!

WE HAVE TO USE THAT SCENT TO EXPOSE THIS MYSTERY YOUKAI!

...MAYBE, JUST MAYBE...

THIS MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH KOSUZU'S DISAPPEARANCE.

WHAT MAKES YOU SAY THAT?

OH, IT'S JUST...

I THINK I'VE SMELLED THIS OLD-FASHIONED AURA BEFORE. AND RECENTLY.

JUST A HINT OF IT, MIND YOU, BUT I FEEL LIKE IT WAS IN SUZUNAAN.

GREAT JOB! YOU ACTUALLY REMEMBERED SOMETHING, YOU SENILE OLD HAG!

SE-

SE-NILE,

YOU SAY?

I'LL FIND THE CULPRIT AND AVENGE YOU. YOU CAN COUNT ON IT.

JUST HOLD ON TIGHT MARISA.

AHEM

HEY!

DON'T JUST KILL ME OFF IN YOUR HEADS!

AND SERIOUSLY, WHO JUST BURIES SOMEONE WHERE THEY LIE, ANYWAY?!

SHOVEL

.....

HUFF HUFF

OOOH

GOODNESS! SHE CAME BACK TO LIFE.

THERE'S NO NEED TO SEARCH FOR THE CULPRIT,

SINCE I SAW THE WHOLE THING!

ビビビ

BUT IF YOU KEEP TREATING ME LIKE THAT I'M NOT TELLING YOU ANYTHING!

ER... SORRY?

WHAT IN THE WORLD HAPPENED?!

7月号に続く

田々
イラスト／水炊き